

## **BAR HARBOR CHARTER REVIEW**

This document was created as an introduction for citizens interested in the work of the Bar Harbor Charter Commission authorized by the voters in November, 2008. The town charter may be found online at [www.barharbormaine.gov](http://www.barharbormaine.gov) under Boards/Committees *click on Charter Commission* or a copy may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office.

The Town of Bar Harbor has a form of government where legislative authority is shared between Town Meeting and the elected Town Council, with a Town Manager serving administratively. The Town Charter is a description of the town's structure and operational procedures.

The Charter Commission consists of nine members, 6 elected and 3 appointed, who will review the Charter and submit a report to the Council. The Council will submit proposed changes to the voters.

### **WHAT DOES THE CHARTER ADDRESS?**

#### **(Partial listing)**

Town Meeting

Timing, Powers, Responsibilities

Town Council

Number of members, Salary, Powers and Duties, Procedure

Ordinances

Form, Procedure

Town Manager

Term, Removal, Powers and Duties

Town Administration

Creation of Departments, Personnel Administration, Assessor, Attorney, Superintending School Committee

Financial Procedures

Budget, Capital Improvement Program

Warrant Committee

Election, duties and Responsibilities

Elections and Nominations

When, Who, How

Initiatives and Referenda

Procedures, Petitions